

housing, and make competitive research grants for technological advancement. These efforts pay for themselves dozens of times over in economic growth, increased productivity, and innovative uses for agricultural products. Many Hooser farmers expressed their support for making research a higher priority, and I agree.

CROP INSURANCE

The farm bill includes provisions from a bill I cosponsored to allow farmers to waive crop insurance mandates if they forego future disaster payments. Under the old crop insurance program, farmers who chose to participate in USDA programs were required to purchase catastrophic insurance from the government, even if it made little sense for a particular farmer's crop or size of operation.

OTHER PROVISIONS

The new bill includes dairy reforms that phase out price supports and replace them with market loans. Unfortunately, the bill made only modest reforms to the sugar and peanut programs. These programs impose production quotas that protect a few sugar and peanut farmers at the expense of consumers. I voted to phase out both the sugar and peanut programs, but the effort failed.

CONCLUSION

The 1996 farm bill passed with broad bipartisan support. While not perfect, this legislation includes many important reforms. I believe it will strengthen the American farmer,

both at home and abroad, and maintain the U.S. food supply as the cheapest and safest food supply in the world.

SUSAN AND ROBERT H. FRIEBERT,
RECIPIENTS OF AMERICAN JEW-
ISH COMMITTEE'S HUMAN RELA-
TIONS AWARD

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friends Susan and Robert Friebert on receiving the American Jewish Committee's 1996 Human Relations Award.

Susan and Bob Friebert, together and as individuals, have left a lasting mark on their community and have touched the lives of literally thousands of people in the Milwaukee area.

Susan Friebert, through her involvement in organizations such as the Quality Education Commission, the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, and the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars, has made the education and well-being of Wisconsin's children a top priority. She is also very proud of her Jewish faith and heritage and has as-

sumed leadership positions in the National Council of Jewish Women, the Wisconsin Jewish Conference, the Milwaukee Jewish Council for Community Relations, and the Milwaukee Jewish Federation. Susan's involvement in these outstanding organizations has helped to ensure that Milwaukee's Jewish community remains an active and vital voice in Milwaukee's civic life.

Through his involvement in Wisconsin's legal community and the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, Bob Friebert has helped to shape our State's legal and political landscape. Bob was instrumental in organizing Wisconsin's State Public Defender's Office and also served as State chair of the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union. While serving as chairman of the Wisconsin Jewish Conference, Bob helped to author and secure passage of Wisconsin's hate crimes law. He is also a leading Democrat and through the years, has played key roles in numerous local, State, and national political campaigns. Like his wife, Bob is also very proud of his Jewish heritage and has assumed leadership positions with organizations such as the Wisconsin Jewish council, the National Jewish Democratic Council, and the Milwaukee Jewish Council on Community Relations.

I commend Susan and Bob Friebert on receiving the 1996 Human Relations Award and on their outstanding service to our community.